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The Morals of Suicide. By J. GUMHILL. Longmans, Green & Co., 1900. Pp. 227.

THE psychology, metaphysics, ethics, statistics, and therapeutics of suicide are discussed with the purpose of showing the necessity of Christian socialism. There is a great deal of excellent advice and earnest exhortation in the volume, and some important facts. The author knows Morselli, but does not mention Durkheim. He quotes a newspaper as authority for the preposterous statement that suicide has increased in the United States from 978 in 1885 to 5,750 in 1895. Certain other statements are more correct and less sensational. That suicide and insanity have increased somewhat with the stress of recent economic changes seems probable, and the writer does well to urge the necessity of economic and educational amelioration.

C. R. HENDERSON.

Grundriss der allgemeinen Volkswirtschaftslehre. Von GUSTAV SCHMOLLER. Erster, grösserer Teil. Begriff. Psychologische und sittliche Grundlage. Land, Leute und Technik. Die gesellschaftliche Verfassung der Volkswirtschaft. Leipzig: Duncker & Humblot, 1900. Pp. x + 482.

OUR present purpose is merely to register the appearance of this epitome of Professor Schmoller's economic philosophy. It would be obvious to the most unsympathetic critic that these pages represent ripe and generous learning. Sociologists will be gratified at constant evidences that the author neither could nor would avoid coördination of economic abstractions with the whole human process which sociology insists on keeping above the horizon. The references to Schaeffle, not merely as a statesman and economist, but especially as the author of that much-abused work, *Bau und Leben*, suggest that the time is coming when men will read Schaeffle before they sneer at him, and that those who are able to understand him will discover that they have behaved very foolishly in taking hearsay for granted about his teachings.

To Professor Schmoller the pure economic abstraction is a speculative abortion. The social process presents itself to him as a whole in which the wealth process, strictly speaking, is essential, to be sure, but still subsidiary. "The good is not static. It is constantly engaged in perfecting itself. The never-resting conquest of the

higher over the lower, of the whole over the partial, makes the essence of the good" (p. 44). It will also grieve those advanced thinkers who have outgrown the "organic concept" to find that it is the constant vehicle of Professor Schmoller's thought. "The study of social organs and institutions has the same relation to knowledge of the social body that the study of anatomy has to knowledge of the physical body" (p. 64). The interdependence of legal, cultural, ethical, and economic phases of the social process, as the reality out of which the economic abstraction is derived, is also taken for granted so constantly that the doctrine of this author seems to have a vitality usually wanting in economic treatises. He seems to be analyzing the actual world, not merely a series of processes dissected out of the real world.

The most virile economic thinking in the United States for the last twenty years has probably been more generally affected by Wagner than by his colleague, Schmoller. Probably Professor Ely has done more than any single man to pass along the influence of the former. In turning the leaves of this book the surmise is suggested that President Hadley may have been more impressed by the latter. At all events there is much in Dr. Hadley's method and in his perspective that might well have been suggested by Schmoller.

Professor Schmoller is among the most human of German economists. The man is not submerged in the specialist. His writings, like his presence, convey the impression that his interest in "problems" is incidental to his interest in men. The present book is as vital as a lawyer's appeal for his client. One may open it almost at random, and the thought will be found to flow close to the stream of modern men's interests. Much of the material of the volume is already in the notebooks of many Americans. The elaborated and printed lectures will help to extend every dimension of our social conceptions.

A. W. S.

Political Parties in the United States from 1846 to 1861. By JESSE MACY, LL.D., Professor of Political Science in Iowa College. "The Citizen's Library." The Macmillan Co., 1900. Pp. viii + 333. \$1.25.

PROFESSOR MACY has the penetrating quality of wisdom which Americans have beatified in Abraham Lincoln. If he parleys with trifles it is to play with them as a relaxation from serious pursuits. When he is attending to business, nonessentials are brushed aside